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COUNTRY Honduras

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: Businessman with varied contacts in western Honduras (C). Appraisal of Content: 2.

1. In the course of a visit to western Honduras during the period 28 April - 6 May 1954, it was learned that there is a Guatemalan in San Pedro Sula, Alejandro GOMEZ Asturias, a first cousin of Antonio and Jose Luis ASTURIAS, whose duty it is to examine all Guatemalans who arrive in that area. GOMEZ' tour of duty in that area will extend until October 1954. Although he dresses as a laborer and claims to be a mechanic, it was not determined where he is employed.

2. Arnulfo CASAZOLA, a Guatemalan who lives in Santa Rosa de Copan, stated that a Col. Francisco DIAZ had visited the town several months ago. DIAZ stated that he was a Guatemalan who had previously been in Tegucigalpa but was returning to Guatemala on an anti-Communist mission.

3. In San Marcos de Ocotepeque it was learned that Guatemalans had been observed in the nearby village of Iliamita. Three of these Guatemalans, Miguel SOLARES, Catalino PEREZ, and Asuncion ENRIQUEZ, stated that they were engaged exclusively in commercial activities and had no interest in politics. It is believed that they are cattle thieves who received financial backing from an unknown source.

4. The career Guatemalan Consul in Ocotepeque La Nueva is Colonel Pedro DIAZ Marroquin; however, the former Consul, Jeronimo GUERRA, continues to act in this capacity also. Although DIAZ has a house of his own, he is living in the home provided by the Consulate. On 19 March 1954 a Guatemalan travelling under the name of Rodolfo FALCK arrived in Ocotepeque, where he was in contact with GUERRA. FALCK remained there through March, spent a great deal of money, and then departed for San Pedro Sula. Octavio FIGUEROA, a Guatemalan resident in Ocotepeque, reportedly attends to

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the needs of fellow nationals who travel for the Guatemalan Government and visit Ocotepeque.

5. In Ruinas de Copan the Guatemalan Consul is Arcadio TURCIOS Juarez. The previous Consul, Enrique SEGURA, is no longer active in this field and is now the agent for SAHSA. TURCIOS believes that he was sent to Ruinas de Copan principally for the purpose of drawing a sketch of the entire Guatemalan-Honduran border area, showing the easiest points for border crossings on foot. TURCIOS has a map of Honduras on which he is marking all private and official landing strips, as well as distances by road from each town to Tegucigalpa. TURCIOS said that he had no use for the Guatemalan Government, and that there are many who share his sentiments but hide their true feelings because of fear. He stated that the Guatemalan Consul in Tela, Jose Maria AGUILAR, and the Consul in Puerto Cortez, Alfredo CABRERA, had been named to their posts for the purpose of protecting other Guatemalans passing through that area and providing information regarding those places on the coast which would provide strategic landing places.

6. Jose CASTRO, travelling representative of the firm of Cas Rivera y Cia., has stated publicly that those Guatemalans who call themselves anti-Communists should be classified as anti-patriots.

1. Field Comment. TURCIOS was at one time a cartographic expert in the Second Section of the Guatemalan Army General Staff.